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# Playground Safety

*Keeping your home hazard-free*

# S A F E



## Playground Safety

***Kids love playgrounds, and the fun and exercise they get while playing are an invaluable part of childhood. Yet nearly 200,000 children must stop playing and head to the nearest emergency room each year, because they got hurt while swinging, sliding and climbing at a playground. Here are some ways to make sure play stays fun.***

- ✓ **Supervise children while they are playing on equipment. Make sure they aren't doing things that are dangerous.**
- ✓ **Look for sharp points or edges on equipment, missing pieces or guards, and splinters on wood.**

**For more safety resources, visit  
[safetycenter.navy.mil](http://safetycenter.navy.mil)**



# S A F E FAMILY



## Playground Safety

- ✓ Don't attach ropes, clotheslines, pet leashes or cords of any kind to play equipment—children can be strangled on them.
- ✓ Wooden playground equipment can deteriorate and produce dangerous splinters if it isn't preserved on a regular basis.
- ✓ Swings should be far enough away from other equipment so that other children won't get hit.
- ✓ Full-bucket seats are recommended for younger children.
- ✓ Slides should be well-anchored, have firm handrails and good traction on the steps.



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# S A F E FAMILY



## Playground Safety

- ✓ Don't dress your kids in clothes that have drawstrings when you take them to a playground. The drawstrings can get caught on slides.
- ✓ A traditional type seesaw should have a tire or some other object under the seat to keep it from hitting the ground.
- ✓ Merry-go-rounds should have good hand grips, and the rotating platform should be level, free of sharp edges and have adequate clearance.
- ✓ Forty percent of all playground injuries are related to climbing equipment. Children under 4 shouldn't play on this equipment.



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